

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1 1. (currently amended) A system for providing self-installing
2 software components for network service execution, comprising:
 - 3 a service host system to store network service software for a service and
 - 4 to generate a code bundle comprising the network service software and
 - 5 installation instructions for the network service software; and
 - 6 a requesting system to communicate with the service host system through
 - 7 a basic communication framework, comprising:
 - 8 a checking mechanism to receive an installation predicate object
 - 9 comprising code from the service host system to test the requesting system by
 - 10 remotely determine determining availability of the network service software on
 - 11 the service host system and to verify by verifying prerequisites against a runtime
 - 12 environment through the service host system;
 - 13 a helper mechanism to receive the code bundle providing the
 - 14 network service software for the service through the service host system and to
 - 15 install the network service software using the installation instructions; and
 - 16 a service mechanism to provide a service of equivalent
 - 17 functionality to the service of the service host system to one or more other
 - 18 requesting systems that is independent of the service host system.
- 1 2. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 1, further
2 comprising:
 - 3 a set of standardized method definitions provided through a public
 - 4 interface defined on the network service software.
- 1 3. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 2, wherein the
2 standardized method definitions are selected from the group comprising at least
3 one of an availability method, environment verification method, code retrieval
4 method, and an update method.

1 4. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the
2 network service software is updated through the service host system.

1 5. (currently amended) A system according to Claim 1, ~~further~~
2 ~~comprising an~~ wherein the installation predicate object ~~defined on the service~~
3 ~~host system to verify~~ verifies that the runtime environment satisfies prerequisites
4 necessary to install and execute the network service software.

1 6. (currently amended) A system according to ~~Claim 5~~ Claim 1,
2 wherein the installation predicate object is implemented in at least one of mobile
3 code for execution within a managed code platform and in platform-specific
4 native code.

1 7. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 1, further
2 comprising:
3 a helper object defined on the service host system to locate and obtain
4 copies of one or more network service software components necessary to satisfy
5 one or more of the prerequisites.

1 8. (original) A system according to Claim 7, wherein the helper
2 object is implemented in at least one of mobile code for execution within a
3 managed code platform and in platform-specific native code.

1 9. (previously presented) A system according to Claim 1, further
2 comprising:
3 an update object defined on the service host system to identify, retrieve
4 and install any updates to the network service software.

1 10. (original) A system according to Claim 9, wherein the update
2 object is implemented in at least one of mobile code for execution within a
3 managed code platform and in platform-specific native code.

1 Claim 11 (canceled).

1 Claim 12 (canceled).

1 13. (original) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the basic
2 communication framework comprises a Java operating environment.

1 14. (currently amended) A method for providing self-installing
2 software components for network service execution, comprising:

3 storing network service software for a service on a service host system and
4 generating a code bundle comprising the network service software and installation
5 instructions for the network service software; and

6 establishing a basic communication framework between the service host
7 system and a requesting system, comprising:

8 remotely determining by the requesting system, availability of the
9 network service software by receiving on the requesting system [[on]], an
10 installation predicate object comprising code from the service host system [[and]]
11 to test the requesting system by remotely determining availability of the network
12 service software and by verifying prerequisites against a runtime environment
13 through the service host system;

14 receiving on the requesting system, the code bundle providing the
15 network service software for the service through the service host system on the
16 requesting system and installing the network service software using the
17 installation instructions; and

18 providing by the requesting system, a service of equivalent
19 functionality to the service of the service host system to one or more other
20 requesting systems that is independent of the service host system.

1 15. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 14, further
2 comprising:

3 specifying a set of standardized method definitions provided through a
4 public interface defined on the network service software.

1. 16. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 15, further
2 comprising:

3 defining the standardized method definitions selected from the group
4 comprising at least one of an availability method, environment verification
5 method, code retrieval method, and an update method.

1. 17. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 14, further
2 comprising:

3 updating the network service software through the service host system.

1. 18. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 14, further
2 comprising:

3 ~~defining an installation predicate object on the service host system to~~
4 ~~verify verifying~~ that the runtime environment satisfies the prerequisites necessary
5 to install and execute the network service software.

1. 19. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 18 Claim 14,
2 wherein the installation predicate object is implemented in at least one of mobile
3 code for execution within a managed code platform and in platform-specific
4 native code.

1. 20. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 14, further
2 comprising:

3 defining a helper object on the service host system to locate and obtain
4 copies of one or more network service software components necessary to satisfy
5 one or more of the prerequisites.

1. 21. (original) A method according to Claim 20, wherein the helper
2 object is implemented in at least one of mobile code for execution within a
3 managed code platform and in platform-specific native code.

1. 22. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 14, further
2 comprising:

3 defining an update object on the service host system to identify, retrieve
4 and install any updates to the network service software.

1 23. (original) A method according to Claim 22, wherein the update
2 object is implemented in at least one of mobile code for execution within a
3 managed code platform and in platform-specific native code.

1 Claim 24 (canceled).

1 Claim 25 (canceled).

1 26. (original) A method according to Claim 14, wherein the basic
2 communication framework comprises a Java operating environment.

1 27. (original) A computer-readable storage medium holding code for
2 performing the method according to Claim 14.

1 28. (currently amended) An apparatus for providing self-installing
2 software components for network service execution, comprising:

3 means for storing network service software for a service on a service host
4 system and for generating a code bundle comprising the network service software
5 and installation instructions for the network service software; and

6 means for establishing a basic communication framework between the
7 service host system and a requesting system, comprising:

8 means for remotely determining by receiving on the requesting
9 system, an installation predicate object comprising code from the service host
10 system to test the requesting system by remotely determining availability of the
11 network service software on the service host system and [[for]] by verifying
12 prerequisites against a runtime environment through the service host system;

13 means for receiving on the requesting system, the code bundle
14 providing the network service software for the service through the service host
15 system and for installing the network service software using the installation
16 instructions; and

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17 means for providing by the requesting system, a service of equivalent
18 functionality to the service of the service host system to one or more other
19 requesting systems that is independent of the service host system.